



My office can help you with:

- Passports
- Citizenship
- Travel documents
- Income Tax
- Canada Child Benefit
- CPP, OAS, & GIS
- Immigration
- Fraud Prevention
- Veterans' Affairs
- Federal grants
- Canada Post
- Any federal programs

Bryan May, Member of Parliament 519-624-7440 BryanMayMP.ca

Subscribe for only
\$45 per year
Contact 519-632-7432 or
www.ayrnews.ca

THE AYR NEWS



~ Published by the Schmidt family since 1913 ~

North Dumfries • Blandford-Blenheim • Brant • East Zorra-Tavistock • Wilmot

Funded by the Government of Canada | 

Vol. 122 — No. 30 AYR, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7th, 2019 \$45 Per Annum — \$1.00 each



With their medals are, from left, Kelsey Mitchell and Amelia Walsh.
Photo courtesy of Dave Holland, Canadian Olympic Committee

Amelia Walsh wins first Canadian cycling medal at PanAm games

Ayr native Amelia Walsh won a silver medal at the Pan-Am games on Thursday, August 1st in the Team Sprint, which was Canada's first medal in a cycling event.

"We took a pretty big risk and put me up about four inches on the front to see if we could get any time back," said Walsh in a post on the Cycling Canada website. "I think with the conditions of the track, it wasn't a bad ride for us as a team. I'm quite proud of it. A medal is a medal, I'll take it. I competed in TORONTO 2015 in BMX and it wasn't good at all, so this is a very big step up. I'm really happy."

Along with teammate Kelsey Mitchell of Alberta,

the team had a time of 34.096, finishing less than one second behind the Mexican team that had a time of 33.424.

Mitchell went on to win a gold medal in the Women's Sprint event, defeating teams from Colombia and Mexico. She also competed in the Keirin event where she placed fifth.

Walsh also competed in the gold medal round for Women's Sprint and placed seventh.

The Canadian cycling women's team placed second overall in the standings.

The PanAm Games are being held in Lima, Peru and began on Friday, July 26th. The closing ceremony is on Sunday, August 11.

Ayr family member plays one small step in the Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969

by Irene Schmidt-Adeney
In July, the 50th anniversary of the first lunar landing was celebrated with grainy black and white film footage of the first moon walk broadcasted on media outlets.

People might not realize that those first steps on the moon might not have taken place if it weren't for a boy who spent lazy summer days playing with his model planes in Ayr.

In 1915, Theresa Goldie gave birth to James Arthur Chamberlin and he would become one of the "geniuses" of the NASA space program.

Theresa Goldie was the granddaughter of John Goldie, who founded the former Goldie Mill on Greenfield Road near Ayr, and later helped build the Gore mansion on Northumberland Street. The Gore was torn down last year to make way for a new residential development.

A magazine article, written in the Canadian Weekly before the famous lunar landing in 1969, emphasized the contribution of Chamberlin to the space program.

"While Americans were still rejoicing in John Glenn's great flight, Jim Chamberlin, the Canadian jet wizard, emerged as the most important figure in the next phase of the U.S. space race with Russia."

"His genius for spacecraft technology overawes the people

who work with him," according to the article.

"I've been in this rocket game ever since it started and I've never seen anyone with his ability," said his American assistant Paul Sturtevant, "Problems that confound other engineers are solved by him sometimes in a matter of minutes."

Jim Chamberlin was described by his co-workers as a "hulking man" of six feet, four inches, with a "quiet modest manner."

"Among his few close friends, he shows a rich sense of humor and a warm personality," said

the Canadian Weekly magazine.

At NASA, Chamberlin directed a staff of 160 engineers, designers, and draftsmen, coordinating the work of 1,000 contractors to build the Gemini space capsule, at a cost of \$500-million.

NASA historian Chris Gainer said, "Chamberlin made many direct contributions to the success of Apollo. He was one of the first people at NASA to see that Apollo would succeed by using the lunar orbit rendezvous flight mode, rather than the direct flight mode fa-

...continued on page 2



Jim Chamberlin holding a toy airplane.



Paris
— JEWELLERS —

24th ANNIVERSARY SALE

Entire Inventory* 1/2 Price!

Saturday, August 10th to Saturday August 17th, 2019

Inventory Clearance • 7 Days Only!

54 Grand River St. N., Paris
519-442-2176

- Diamond Studs • 10 and 14 kt Gold Earrings, Bracelets and Chains
- Tennis Bracelets • Bulova Watches • Diamond Pendants • Wall Clocks

*Excluding Crabtree and Evelyn Products



Come Meet Your MP

Thursday, August 22nd, 10am - 3pm

North Dumfries Community Complex, 2958 Greenfield Road, Ayr

- Call to make an appointment -

Bryan May, Member of Parliament

519-624-7440

BryanMayMP.ca

Subscribe for only
\$45 per year
Contact 519-632-7432 or
www.ayrnews.ca

THE AYR NEWS



~ Published by the Schmidt family since 1913 ~

North Dumfries • Blandford-Blenheim • Brant • East Zorra-Tavistock • Wilmot

Funded by the Government of Canada



Vol. 122 — No. 31

AYR, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14th, 2019

\$45 Per Annum — \$1.00 each

Archival documents removed from Ayr Library

By Irene Schmidt-Adeney

There will be no reason to visit the Ayr Library to view historical documents for Ayr and North Dumfries because they have been removed from the township for storage at the Waterloo Region Archives.

Last week, the North Dumfries Historical Preservation Society (NDHPS) chair David Pyper requested the township's summer student create a list of all archival material at the Ayr Library. The student was told that archival materials and documents are no longer kept at the library.

"It is disappointing to hear that local historical records from the Ayr Library have been sent to the Regional archives without involving the local North Dumfries Historical Preservation Society," said Pyper. "Our goal is always to keep local records in a local space, close to our community. We believe that local records should be retained locally and not lost to other municipalities or levels of government."

The regional website said that the archival collection held by the Ayr Library was transferred to the Region of Waterloo Library in 2017.

Waterloo Region Information Technician Matt Roth said, "They are now located at ...continued on page 2



Initially, the pole was placed directly in front of the cairn.



Energy+ employees moved it off to the side on Friday.

HYDRO POLE MOVED ON FRIDAY

Energy+ shocked to learn new pole blocks cairn to a 'father of Ontario hydro'

By Irene Schmidt-Adeney

Energy+ erected a new hydro pole in Roseville, and perhaps without realizing it, blocked the view of a cairn that commemorates the birthplace of a Roseville native.

"Ironically, this cairn marks the birthplace of D.B. Detweiler, one of the founders of what would become Hydro One," said Councillor Rod Rolleman.

The cairn is at the intersection of Roseville Road and Fischer-Hallman Road.

After being contacted by the Ayr News last Wednesday, Energy+ spokesperson Allison Cann said that the pole would be relocated. The pole was moved last Friday.

"The balance of the lines to be re-configured will happen in the next couple of weeks," said Cann.

"We really appreciate the

feedback we received from customers and communities," she added. "There are always opportunities for improvement and we are happy to respond to make this situation right."

Detweiler was born in Roseville on April 10, 1860, the son of Pennsylvania Dutch Mennonites, Rev. Enoch Detweiler and his wife Abigail Bechtel. Eventually, he left Roseville and went to work in Berlin (now Kitchener), employed as a button salesman and vice-president of a shoe company. Later, he was president of Algoma Power Company.

He was one of three men called the "fathers of hydro" in Ontario. The other men included Adam Beck of Baden and Elias Snider of St. Jacobs. Eventually Beck and Snider both served as chairs of Ontario Power Commission. De-

twiler went on to advocate for the development of the St. Lawrence Waterway system.

Detweiler, Snider and Beck are credited with Berlin becoming the first community in Ontario to get hydroelectricity in 1910. This was the first time that lines were strung from Niagara Falls to a community.

Before that time, some homes and businesses had electric lights that were powered by a mill or coal plant. Such was the case in Ayr, where electricity was generated from a plant in Nithvale beginning in the 1890s and in 1908 from a plant located at what is now Snap Fitness. Ayr joined the Niagara power system in December 1913.

Detweiler died on April 18, 1919 and is buried at the First Mennonite Cemetery in Kitchener.



Daniel B. Detweiler

Photo from www.generations.regionofwaterloo.ca.



August 29th to September 2nd, 2019

Tickets on Sale Now!

parisfairgrounds.com



35th Anniversary
St. George AppleFest
September 21st & 22nd, 2019
 Saturday 10am-6pm • Sunday 10am-5pm
 Over 130 Vendors!
 Saturday FREE Street Party 6pm-11pm

Applefest



Subscribe for only
 \$45 per year
 Contact 519-632-7432 or
 www.ayrnews.ca

THE AYR NEWS



~ Published by the Schmidt family since 1913 ~

North Dumfries • Blandford-Blenheim • Brant • East Zorra-Tavistock • Wilmot

Funded by the Government of Canada | Canada

Vol. 122 — No. 36 AYR, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 2019 \$45 Per Annum — \$1.00 each

Discovery of human remains halts Kirkwood construction in Ayr

By Irene Schmidt-Adeney

A story that has been circulated in Ayr over the years appears to be true after human remains were discovered at the Kirkwood construction site, in an area that was formerly the burying ground for the Stanley Street Presbyterian Church.

According to local recollections, when the burying grounds from three former Ayr Churches were closed, there was a charge to move the remains to the Ayr Cemetery. As a result of there being a charge, some of the remains stayed where they were originally buried.

Last Tuesday, the construction workers found the skeletal remains of an unidentified person, undisturbed after at least 100 years.

It is believed that natural erosion caused by recent storms exposed the remains. The skeleton was completely intact and facing east as was the custom, the casket handles remained in position, but the casket had long since decayed.

Construction stopped immediately and Waterloo Regional Police attended the scene. The investigation was turned over to the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services and the registrar of burial sites.

The registrar requires documentation to verify that this was a burial ground and that it was officially closed. The official records were located within the archives of Knox United Church to verify the closure of the cemetery, and they have been forwarded to

the registrar. In the meantime, plans are being made to reinter the remains at the Ayr Cemetery in a gravesite that is owned by Knox Church for purposes such as this.

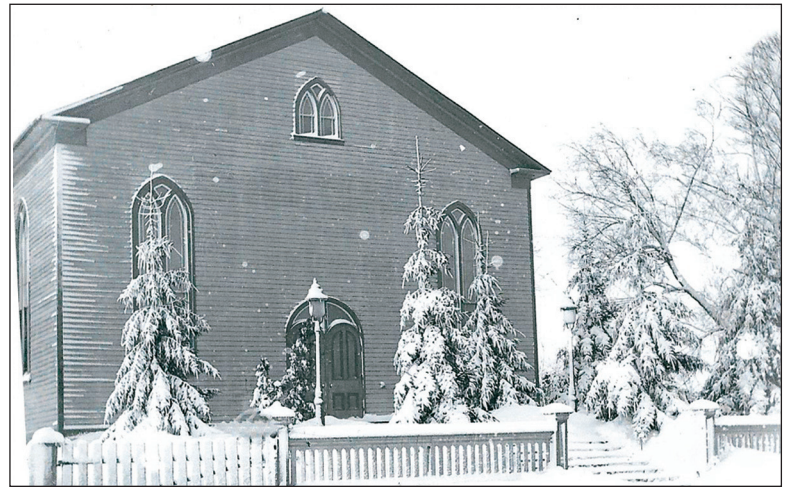
But construction has ground to a halt until the registrar releases the site.

“We have been working very hard to resolve this matter as soon as possible,” said Kirkwood Building Committee Chair Mike Schmidt. “As everyone knows, delays cost money, and our committee is trying to keep these apartments affordable for the seniors of our community.”

The Kirkwood apartments were built on the site of the former Stanley Street Presbyterian Church. The church opened in 1843 and closed in 1914 when the congregation joined with Knox United Church. The building was demolished in 1915 and the cemetery was closed in 1924.



Above: A tarp covers the place where skeletal remains were found at the Kirkwood construction site on Stanley Street in Ayr. What appear to be coffin handles can be seen on an orange support sticking out of the ground to the right of the tarp. Below left: A photo of the Stanley Street Presbyterian Church, which was demolished in 1915. Below right: The cairn on the property that commemorates the former Stanley Street Presbyterian Church and burying ground.




PRIORITY
 Mechanical Services Ltd.




Heating | Cooling | Plumbing | Air Quality | Controls | Fireplaces
 519-632-7116 • Toll Free 1-844-632-7116 • info@prioritymechanical.ca • www.prioritymechanical.ca

Ayr family member plays one small step in the Apollo 11 moon landing...from page one

voured at NASA in 1961, when President Kennedy launched the moon program."

"He helped solve problems with the Apollo Command and Service Modules, the Lunar Module, the extravehicular mobility unit used by astronauts to walk on the moon, and the Saturn rockets. Before he left NASA in 1970, Chamberlin was involved in drawing up early design concepts for the space shuttle," Gainer stated.

Chamberlin might not have gone to NASA if the Canadian government had not cancelled the AVRO Arrow program. He was the chief engineer of the supersonic jet program designed and built in Ontario in the 1950s in a project sponsored by the government.

When the project was cancelled in 1959, Chamberlin was among 25,000 people who were now unemployed. A NASA recruiting agent arrived at the Avro offices and scooped up 25 Canadian engineers, including Chamberlin. Within six months, Chamberlin was promoted to chief of the NASA en-

gineering division.

And as they say, the rest is history.

His mother Theresa Goldie was born in Ayr in 1889 and lived here until she was 21. She met Walter "Arthur" Chamberlin, an architect born in England, while visiting her brother who lived in Toronto.

Theresa Goldie and Arthur Chamberlin were married at the Gore in February 1913.

"Aunt Tib (as Theresa was known) once told me that they'd carved their initials on a tree at the Gore," said David Kilgour, Theresa's nephew. "They spent their honeymoon there (everyone else vacated it for a few days)."

The couple moved to Kamloops, British Columbia for a job opportunity, and son Jim arrived in May 1915.

When WWI broke out, Arthur enlisted with the Canadian Field Artillery, 4th Brigade and became a gunner.

Not one to be left behind, Theresa and her young son Jim followed her husband to England where she stayed while her husband fought in

the war.

"She was what used to be called a formidable woman," said Kilgour. "A founder of the Women Electors in Toronto (a suffragette movement) and the first woman to serve as chair of the Toronto Library Board."

Tragically, Arthur was killed in France in May 1918.

In a Goldie family history, Theresa said, "In 1915, I went to England to be near my husband, and there I saw biplanes being put to military use for the first time."

"Just after the War, back in Canada, I took my son Jim to see the planes at Armour Heights (in Toronto). As soon as he was lifted into a cockpit he fell in love with planes and everything about them, a love which later led him to Avro and NASA."

Theresa remarried and lived in Toronto where she died in 1984 at the age of 94. She is buried in the Goldie plot at the Ayr Cemetery.

Jim graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in mechanical engineering and also from the Imperial College in London, England, graduating in 1939.

During WWII, he worked briefly in England for aircraft company Martin-Baker, known for its development of the ejection seat. He then went to work on the production of the British Avro Anson in Montreal. He was the chief engineer of an anti-submarine aircraft program in Nova Scotia, and then worked on the Noorduyn Norseman, a plane used by the military as a utility transport plane because of its ability to land on rough surfaces.

In 1946, Chamberlin joined the Avro Arrow team in Toronto.

During this time he married Ella and had two children, Shirley (Ditloff) and Arthur.

After he joined NASA in 1959, he never lived in Canada again, but always kept in touch with his relatives in Toronto.

Chamberlin became an American citizen in 1964.

He left the NASA space program in 1970, one year after the first moon walk, and went to work for McDonnell Douglas Astronautics, the company that won the contract for the space shuttle.



Jim Chamberlin and Theresa Goldie in a photo taken at the former Gore Mansion in Ayr.

Photos courtesy of the Goldie family

In March 1981, Chamberlin died in Houston at the age of 65.

He achieved many honours for his work at NASA including the Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal, the Exceptional Service Medal, and the Exceptional Engineering Achievement Medal for his work on space shuttle.

In 2001, Chamberlin was inducted into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame.

His son Arthur, and several other members of the Goldie family visited the community in September 2014 for the designation ceremony when Greenfield became a Heritage

Conservation District. It was designated, for the most part, because of the mill houses that remain on the road close to the former Goldie Mill.

"I still live in Houston and have always visited Toronto once a year and occasionally more often since we came to the U.S. in 1959," said Arthur. "I have always enjoyed keeping in touch with my cousins and a few friends who still live in or near Toronto."

The Ayr News would like to thank members of the Goldie family who provided pictures, articles and comments for this article.



WWI picture of Walter "Arthur" Chamberlin taken in France.

Lucio's Bakery
226-791-9677

luciosbakery.ca • 47 Northumberland Street, Ayr

ANIMAL HOUSE
PET SUPPLIES AND LIVESTOCK FEED

Come see us for all your pet supplies & livestock feed
Best prices in the area!

1202 Northumberland Street, Ayr
519-632-5048